AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) An image capture ~~apparatus~~ <u>device</u>
comprising:

an image capture unit adapted to capture an image;

an information generation unit adapted to generate specific information
relating to <u>image data of</u> the <u>captured</u> image ~~data~~;

a recording unit adapted to record <u>the</u> image data ~~obtained from the captured
image~~ and the specific information on a recording medium;

a reproducing unit adapted to reproduce the image data and the specific
information from the recording medium; <u>and</u>

an embedding unit adapted to embed the specific information <u>reproduced
from the recording medium</u> into the image data <u>reproduced from the recording medium</u>
using a digital watermarking technique~~; and a selecting unit adapted to select a first process
or a second process in accordance with user's instruction~~,

wherein, when [[the]] <u>a</u> first process is selected <u>by a user</u>, the embedding
unit embeds the specific information into the image data, and

when [[the]] <u>a</u> second process is selected <u>by the user</u>, the embedding unit
avoids embedding the specific information into the image data.

2.   (Currently Amended) An ~~apparatus~~ <u>image capture device</u> according
to claim 1, <u>further comprising a decompressing unit adapted to decompress the image data
reproduced from the recording medium,</u>

wherein the embedding unit is adapted to embed the specific information

into the ~~decompressed~~ image data <u>decompressed by the decompressing unit</u>.

3. to 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for use in an image capture

~~apparatus~~ <u>device</u> comprising ~~the steps of~~:

a <u>step of</u> capturing an image;

an <u>information generation step of</u> generating specific information relating to

<u>image data of</u> the <u>captured</u> image ~~data~~;

a <u>step of</u> recording <u>the</u> image data ~~obtained from the captured image~~ and the

specific information on a recording medium;

a <u>step of</u> reproducing the image data and the specific information from the

recording medium;

an <u>embedding step of</u> embedding the specific information <u>reproduced from</u>

<u>the recording medium</u> into the image data <u>reproduced for the recording medium</u> using a

digital watermarking technique ~~; and selecting a first process or a second process in~~

~~accordance with user's instruction~~,

wherein, when [[the]] <u>a</u> first process is selected <u>by a user</u>, the embedding

step embeds the specific information into the image data, and

when [[the]] <u>a</u> second process is selected <u>by the user</u>, the embedding step

avoids embedding the specific information into the image data.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising a decompressing step of decompressing the image data reproduced from the recording medium,

wherein the embedding step ~~is a step of embedding~~ embeds the specific information into the ~~decompressed~~ image data decompressed in the decompressing step.

7. to 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for use in an image capture ~~apparatus~~ device, the program is capable of performing ~~the steps of~~:

a step of capturing an image;

an information generation step of generating specific information relating to image data of the captured ~~image data~~;

a step of recording the image data ~~obtained from the captured image~~ and the specific information on a recording medium;

a step of reproducing the image data and the specific information from the recording medium;

an embedding step of embedding the specific information reproduced from the recording medium into the image data reproduced from the recording medium using a digital watermarking technique; ~~and~~

~~selecting a first process or a second process in accordance with user's instruction,~~

- 4 -

wherein, when [[the]] a first process is selected by a user, the embedding

step embeds the specific information into the image data, and

when [[the]] a second process is selected by the user, the embedding step

avoids embedding the specific information into the image data.

10.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium according to claim 9, the

program is capable of performing a decompressing step of decompressing the image data

reproduced from the recording medium,

wherein the embedding step is a step of embedding embeds the specific

information into the decompressed image data decompressed in the decompressing step.

11. to 12. (Canceled)

13.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus image capture device according

to claim 1, wherein the apparatus information generation unit generates the specific

information when the image is captured.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further

comprising a step of generating wherein the information generation step generates the

specific information when the image is captured.

15.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium according to claim 9, ~~the program further comprises a step of generating~~ wherein the information generation step generates the specific information when the image is captured.

16.   (Currently Amended) An ~~apparatus~~ image capture device according to claim 1, further comprising an outputting unit adapted to output the image data to [[a]] an external destination ~~external to the image capture apparatus~~,

wherein, when the first process is selected by a user, the outputting unit outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and

wherein, when the second process is selected by the user, the outputting unit outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

17.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising [[a]] an outputting step of outputting the image data to [[a]] an external destination ~~external to the image capture apparatus~~,

wherein, when the first process is selected by a user, the outputting step outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and

wherein, when the second process is selected by the user, the outputting step outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

18.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium according to claim 9, the program ~~further comprises a~~ is capable of performing an outputting step of outputting the image data to [[a]] an external destination ~~external to the image capture apparatus~~,

- 6 -

wherein, when the first process is selected <u>by a user</u>, the outputting step

outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and

wherein, when the second process is selected <u>by the user</u>, the outputting step

outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

19.   (New) An image capture device comprising:

an image capture unit adapted to capture an image;

an information generation unit adapted to generate specific information

relating to image data of the captured image; and

an embedding unit adapted to embed the specific information generated in

the image capture device into the image data using a digital watermarking technique,

wherein, when a first process is selected by a user, the embedding unit

embeds the specific information into the image data, and

when a second process is selected by the user, the embedding unit avoids

embedding the specific information into the image data.

20.   (New) An image capture device according to claim 19, wherein the

information generation unit generates the specific information when the image is captured.

21.   (New) An image capture device according to claim 19, further

comprising an outputting unit adapted to output the image data to an external destination,

wherein, when the first process is selected by a user, the outputting unit

outputs the image data with the specific information embedded to the external destination,

and

when the second process is selected by the user, the outputting unit outputs

the image data without the specific information embedded to the external destination.